

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Valdez****Project Title:**

Valdez - Cruise Ship Dock Renovation and Uplands Repair

State Funding Requested: \$ 1,500,000**House District: 12 - F**

Future Funding May Be Requested

Brief Project Description:

Fix old commercial dock to accommodate cruise ships

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$7,000,000**Funding Secured*Amount FY*Other Pending Requests*Amount FY*Anticipated Future Need*Amount FY*

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

This project requests funding from the cruise ship head tax in order to provide necessary upgrades and renovations to the old commercial dock in Valdez built in the mid 1960's. The adjacent uplands will be developed to connect and accommodate traffic and integrate with the AK Marine Highway System dock.

Details of the project include fixing the fendering system, removing an old warehouse and seafood processing plant, develop commercial retail area for tourist destinations, and other such improvements.

Project Timeline:

2008-2010

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

City of Valdez

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: John Hozey

Phone Number: (907) 835-4313

Address: PO Box 307

Valdez, AK 99686

Email:

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No



City of Valdez – Legislative Appropriations List

OVERVIEW

Projects

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| • Small Boat Harbor Expansion | \$2.5 million |
| • Flood Mitigation Project (dikes/culverts) | \$1.0 million |
| • Flood Susceptible Sewer Systems | \$0.5 million |
| • Cruise Ship Dock Renovation & Uplands Revitalization | \$1.675 million |

PROJECT TITLE: Valdez Small Boat Harbor Expansion

CONTACT PERSON:

John Hozey
City Manager
(907) 834-3406/3466
(907) 835-2992 – Fax
Email:
jhozey@ci.valdez.ak.us



FUNDING: Current Year Appropriation: \$2.5 Million
Project Total: \$40 Million (\$20 Million in Federal Funds)

DESCRIPTION: Additional 320 slip harbor capacity with associated General Navigation Features and required upland infrastructure. The Valdez Harbor Project was recently authorized in the federal 2007 Water Resource Development Act for \$20 million. The Army Corps of Engineers is aggressively working this project with construction anticipated in 2010. Current Corps of Engineers draft feasibility study indicates a Benefit Cost Ratio of 2+.

JUSTIFICATION: Valdez is still using the original harbor built for the new town site following the great 1964 earthquake. It incorporates recreational, subsistence, commercial, and Coast Guard uses. Deficiencies include over congestion, poor water circulation, narrow channels, limited operations for large vessels, and inadequate launching capacity. Extreme overcrowding on limited fairways leads to hazards to navigation for all users. The current wait list for permanent moorage is at 249. Over the past 10 years that number has gone up an average of 6% each year.

The circulation issue results in inadequate salt water mixing within the basin and freeze-up of launch ramps and navigable areas within the harbor. This is particularly problematic for quick response missions for fire/rescue, SERVS, or Coast Guard small vessels during the winter months. During the summer months intense overcrowding negatively impacts those same critical response times. Limited moorage for Cutter sized vessels and inadequate launching capacity for smaller Coast Guard vessels adversely affect Homeland Security and environmental requirements associated with oil pipeline terminus operations. New harbor facilities have been through multiple public processes and are consistently determined to be the number one priority which is badly needed to mitigate all deficiencies.

PROJECT TITLE:

Flood Mitigation Project

CONTACT PERSON:

John Hozey
City Manager
(907) 834-3406/3466
(907) 835-2992 – Fax
Email: jhozey@ci.valdez.ak.us

PROJECT FUNDING:

2008 Appropriation:	\$1.0 Million
Project Total:	\$3.5 Million

DESCRIPTION:

Many areas of the City are in low lying terrain susceptible to flooding or the threat of erosion. The City has constructed a series of levees and culverts to manage the flow of water and protect life and property. However, most of these protective systems are in need of repair, maintenance, and upgrade following the flood of October 2006. Additionally, new requirements for protective systems have also been identified. This project includes hydrological studies, engineering, and construction of needed upgrades and infrastructure.

BENEFIT:

Repairs existing storm damage and significantly mitigates the current threat to life and personal property due to natural flooding events and the effect of erosion from the Lowe River, the Glacier Stream, and Mineral Creek. Will also protect public roads and other critical public infrastructure at a significantly lesser cost than allowing flood or erosion damage to occur which would then require considerably more public funding to repair/rebuild.

PROJECT TITLE:

Flood Susceptible Sewer Systems

CONTACT PERSON:

John Hozey
City Manager
(907) 834-3406/3466
(907) 835-2992 – Fax
Email: jhozey@ci.valdez.ak.us

PROJECT FUNDING:

2008 Appropriation:	\$500,000
Project Total:	\$2.5 Million

DESCRIPTION:

Many septic systems within the City of Valdez have been determined to be substandard. This is especially prevalent in the state established sub-division of Alpine Woods at mile 10 of the Richardson Highway. This problem was exacerbated during the recent flooding event of October 2006. Several drinking water wells in the area tested positive for contamination as a result of the high water levels infiltrating area septic systems. This project will establish a program to replace substandard or non-compliant septic systems with appropriate mound, partial mound, or package treatment systems as required. Numerous public meetings and workshops have been held to incorporate public testimony and commitment to fix this problem.

BENEFIT:

Completion of the project will address a significant public health threat by minimizing the existing documented groundwater and drinking water contamination within specific areas of the City. This project will also benefit local homeowners and allow for more land to become available for residential use. Upon completion, in the Alpine Woods area alone, it will result in approximately 389 residents being protected by more appropriate septic systems.

PROJECT TITLE:

Cruise Ship Dock and Uplands Revitalization

CONTACT PERSON:

John Hozey
City Manager
(907) 834-3406
(907) 835-2992 – Fax
Email: jhozey@ci.valdez.ak.us

PROJECT FUNDING:

2008 Appropriation:	\$1.675 Million
Project Total:	\$7.5 Million

DESCRIPTION:

The existing City dock, built immediately following the relocation of the City after the 1964 earthquake, is not suitable for cruise ship moorage and is in need of major repair. This project will not only enable mid-sized cruise ships to dock close to town, but will addresses all required maintenance and enhance the versatility of the facility and surrounding uplands. The full scope includes dredging, new piles, fendering, utility upgrades, demolition of defunct fish processing plant, and upland passenger reception amenities. State funds toward this project can be leveraged against \$3 million in Federal funds already received through an EDA grant. This project has enjoyed strong support in the community for over a decade.

BENEFIT:

Mitigates current deferred maintenance liabilities for the old City dock; enhances very limited waterfront resources; and provides much greater economic diversity for the City. The new dock will allow cruise ships and other large vessels to dock in town verses having to go out to the City's container terminal several miles away. It could also accommodate military vessels in support of exercises, testing of equipment, and/or homeland security functions associated with the Trans Alaska Oil Pipeline terminal. The dock would also continue to serve commercial fisherman, as well as provide alternate cargo/freight transit options. This project is an essential part of the City's plan to diversity the Valdez economy and does so by providing cruise ships with a new, convenient and attractive place to expand service to the area.